IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Applicants:

PHELAN ET AL.

Serial No.: 09/993, 992

Filed: November 14, 2001

Title: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR AUTOMATICALLY **EXCHANGING CREDIT INFORMATION**

) I hereby certify that this paper and the) documents referred to as being attached or) enclosed therewith are being transmitted via EFS-Web to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 15, 2008.

Rug Allen

Roger A. Heppermann

Confirmation No.: 9063

Group Art Unit: 3694

Examiner: JAMIE H. SWARTZ

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 13, 2007

MS Amendment **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is in response to the Final Office Action dated November 13, 2007. Applicants respectfully request the examiner to reconsider the rejections of the claims in view of the comments set forth below.

Amendments to the claims are shown in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 9 of this paper.